

REMARKS

Claims 2-49 are presently pending in the application.

Election of Species

The Office Action sets forth a requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 for an election of a single species from those specified as follows:

- I. Claims 2-17, classified in class 434, subclass 262.
- II. Claims 18-31 and 40-49, classified in class 705, subclass 2 and class 600, subclass 301.
- III. Claims 32-39, classified in class 700, subclass 32 and class 707, subclass 104.1.

Applicant selects Group II, claims 18-31 and 40-49, without traverse.


Restriction is proper if two or more “independent and distinct” inventions are claimed in one application. Although the various claims are described rules or decision structures, they all relate to methods whereby a user of an expert system may custom tailor a set of rules to their own personal criteria. An example provided in the specification is of doctors that may choose different levels at which a medical test requires further action. It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that the claims are not independent in that there is a disclosed relationship between them. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10737/00503
Response to Restriction Requirement dated October 3, 2005
In Reply to Office Action dated September 2, 2005

If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed. Any other fee required by this document, other than the issue fee, and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

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